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(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to prevent the mortality?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) The number of cattle that died during the month of July 1956 is 27, 7 in the month of August, and 43 in the month of September 1956.

(b) The deaths were mainly due to the acute scarcity of fodder in the grazing area in the forest on account of the failure of rains.

(c) The District Veterinary Officer, Erode, has taken all measures to prevent any possible outbreak of contagious disease in the area.

SRI B. K. NALLASWAMI : I want to know whether the District Collector or the higher authorities had taken any steps to supply fodder at cheaper rates in those parts?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I do not have any information as to the exact steps that were taken. But I may tell the hon. Member that conditions have now improved in the forest areas and there is abundant green-fodder available in the forests on account of recent rains.

SRI B. K. NALLASWAMI : May I request that at least some concession for grazing and other things may be given to those unfortunate hill people who have lost their cattle?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I do not know what concession the hon. Member would require for those who have lost cattle. Those who have lost cattle may not need grazing facilities at all. But anyhow there is now plenty of grass available and if the hon. Member would put any specific question, I shall look into it.

Opening of an X-ray section in the Headquarters Hospital, Tanjore

* 375 Q.—SRI M. RATHNASWAMY (on behalf of Sri M. Marimuthu) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to open an X-ray section in the District Headquarters hospital, Tanjore, or in the hospital at Pattukkottai; and

(b) if so, when?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (a) There is already an X-ray department in the Government Headquarters Hospital, Tanjore. The Government Hospital, Pattukkottai, is not provided with X-ray facilities. There is no proposal at present to open an X-ray section there.

(b) Does not arise.

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SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN : May I know whether all the District Headquarters hospitals all over the State have been provided with X-ray section and if so, whether the extension of such X-ray section facilities will be considered for the certain Taluk Headquarters hospitals?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I would like the hon. Member to put a separate question.

SRI A. M. RATHNASWAMY : It is very encouraging to find from the newspapers that some public-spirited persons in the Tanjore district come forward to pay adequate amount for the opening of either a Medical College or a hospital or even a Technological Institute. I do not know why the Government should not make use of the amount that may be available from such public-spirited persons in Tanjore for the installation of X-ray equipment in the hospitals at Pattukkottai and other places in the Tanjore district?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I also do not know whether such public-spirited persons are coming forward with such donations.

Control of bus transport in the Tamil areas transferred to the Madras State

* 376 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have taken over the control of bus transport in the Tamil areas recently transferred to the Madras State;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to entrust the bus service to private companies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : In the Kanyakumari district is the Government Transport having an entire monopoly of the transport system or whether any private owners are also allowed to operate in that area?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : No, Sir. The Government have undertaken the responsibility of running the transport system there.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : Time and again the Hon. Minister for Transport has been saying that the Government are finding it very difficult to procure buses and that being so, how are they going to run the bus service in the areas taken over by the Government efficiently and well?